



Greetings People,

This past week 12 members of NCP attended and worked at the Matthew25 Summit in Atlanta, GA. We were hosted at New Life Presbyterian Church <https://www.newlifepresatl.com> This particular congregation is a current example of living out the Gospel through a lens of Matthew25.

The regular practices within the life of this congregation are Vibrant Worship that engages all generations, Lifelong Learning opportunities (in study and service), and constantly paying attention to the needs of the surrounding community and being flexible with connecting to those needs. I am highlighting this particular congregation because our denomination took a risk in having the Matthew25 Summit with a congregation! Rev. Dr. Diana Moffett (President and Executive Director of Presbyterian Mission Agency) stated in her welcome, “in-person attendance was so that, we as a connectional church could invest in ourselves”. By investing in ourselves, we were able to honor how a congregation of people SHARE their building CONSTANTLY. Our attendance required the children’s school at New Life to move to another church for the week. This happened because of their partnerships throughout the community. New Life and PCUSA took a risk in making this moment work TOGETHER.

The content was fulfilling. Worship was energizing. Seeing the collection of Presbyterians from all over the country was shocking in a good way. This was a SOLD OUT ticketed Presbyterian Conference! You will hear more about what the 12 have gained from this experience. For now, here is my question: What can we do together to INVEST in ourselves so that we are able to be an IMPACT of Jesus Christ with others?

I suggest THREE simple acts. First, please be sure your Clerk of Session and your Pastors have filled out the **Dismantling Racism Survey** (contact Dir. Of Communication LaJuan Quander if you have not seen this email). Your responses will impact how our presbytery organizes the resources for your congregations as we live in Matthew25. Second, in February the **HOLYCOW! Landscape** link will be sent to all current Minister Members of NCP and Registered Commissioners of our Presbytery Meetings. NCP participated in this survey 10 years ago. It supported how we organized priorities as a Presbytery. It is time to check in and update your input. Third, Clergy and church professionals attend our **Con-Ed Event** this March. We will Flex our ordination vows with Imagination, Energy, Love, and Intelligence facing how our properties and congregations are relevant today!

Congregational Vitality (Worship and Discipleship), Eradicating Poverty (Impact and Service), Dismantling Systematic Racism (Partnerships and Relationships) are the three legs lifted up in Matthew25. I am grateful to be with congregations who stand and sit well on this stool of ministry.

Peace and Courage,

Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe